



# THE GRANGE SCHOOL

*Mr V Murray – Headteacher*

13 September 2024

Dear Parent/ Carer

## **Re: Year 7 at the end of their first full week at The Grange School**

### **An overview of the past week:**

This week, Year 7 have had two assemblies, both presented by our Deputy Headteacher, Mr Golding. The focus of these assemblies was around keeping them safe, both in school, as well as online.

The Year 10 Buddies have taken our Year 7 students to all 25 lessons this week. I have personally been able to pop in to see each of the Year 7 forms at least once this week in various lessons across the school.

I have been really impressed by their engagement with their new teachers, following instructions of staff in order to get the best out of them and being well-equipped for their lessons.

It has been lovely to see new friendships forming during their break and lunchtimes, especially between students from multiple different partner schools. We have asked Year 7 to remain on the main playground and the front grass area next to our Sixth Form Centre for the foreseeable future, until they become more settled.

### **Canteen**

We are currently in the process of organising time slots to take Year 7 to the canteen, one form group at a time for their fingerprints to be scanned. This will be done next week. Until then, students can continue to use cash to purchase food and drink.

### **Year 10 Buddies**

Our Year 10 Buddies have been an incredible support for our Year 7 students in taking them to and from their lessons, breaks and lunches and supporting them with their transition to secondary school. The Buddies will finish supporting the Year 7's on Wednesday 18 September 2024 at 3.00pm. From Thursday 19 September, Year 7 will be out and about on their own! By then the students will have been to all their lessons and classrooms at least once and will be advised what to do should they not be able to find a classroom during their assembly on Monday morning.

### **Year 7 Teambuilding Day**

All of Year 7 will be taking part in a teambuilding day on Friday 20 September 2024. The aim of this is for the students to get to know their new peers a little better and help develop their communication, problem solving and teamwork skills. The activity will be led by Cloud 9 Leisure Company, together with members of The Grange School staff.

Students in Year 7 DISC will take part during periods 2 & 3 and Year 7 OVER students will take part during periods 4 & 5.

A separate letter has been sent regarding this activity for more details, including an online form to complete should you NOT wish for your child to take part. You can find this in the Year 7 section of the Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin.

### **Medical Forms**

Please ensure you have completed your child's online medical form. These need to be completed at the start of every year. You can find a separate letter for these in the Year 7 section of the Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin.

**Social Media** – we have unfortunately had some incidents this week involving unkind comments being sent on social media platforms. Please can we ask for your support in monitoring your children’s use of social media and being aware of the minimum ages for these platforms.

**Satchel One** – your child will receive their log in details and shown how to use this platform during their first two ICT lessons. Most of Year 7 students have already had their first ICT lesson this week. Parent log in details will come home via your child over the next two weeks. No homework will be set by staff for the first 4 weeks.

**School Gateway** – All parents and carers can now log into the app. Please find instructions of how to download the app here on our website: [Online Payments - The Grange School](#). If you are experiencing any problems, please email Mrs Travers at [etravers@grange.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:etravers@grange.bucks.sch.uk) and she will be happy to help.

**As a reminder from last week’s communication:**

**Baseline ‘assessments’**

Some subjects will be asking Year 7 students to sit a short baseline assessment during their timetabled lessons. These are just to assess where their starting points are in that particular subject, so teachers can pitch the level of their lessons as accurately as possible in order to enable progress from their primary schools to continue. Students will not be put into ability groups. These assessments are nothing for your child to worry about or prepare for. They just need to complete what they can.

**Weekly Parent/Carer Communication** – We communicate weekly with our parents/carers through our weekly parent/carers bulletin, which is sent out every Friday. Please make sure you have a look at this each week.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, you can email your child’s form tutor, log onto The Grange School Year 7 Starters 2024 Facebook Page or email us via [office@grange.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@grange.bucks.sch.uk)

Thank you for your continued support in getting your child started at The Grange and we look forward to welcoming them back on Monday for their first full ‘Week 1’ week.

Yours faithfully



**Miss N Glenister**  
**Assistant Headteacher – School & Community**

